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FARM AND HOME HOUR

ADVERTISER

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS

WRITER  
EPISODE 373

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WMAQ BLUE

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CHICAGO OUTLET

FEBRUARY 9, 1940

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PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS

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1. ANNOUNCER: "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers".

2. ORCHESTRA: QUARTET: Ranger Song.

3. ANNOUNCER: And now for another look-in on Forest Ranger Jim  
4. Robbins and his young assistant ranger Jerry Quick, the men on  
5. the Pine Cone National Forest entrusted with the job of keeping  
6. the forests green and growing for the use and benefit of the people  
7. of the United States. One of the hardest jobs our forest rangers have  
8. to do is to correlate the many uses of land and timber that make up a  
9. national forest. Areas for which the best use is furnishing timber to  
10. help supply the Nation's needs are dedicated to growing successive  
11. crops of timber. Other areas for which the highest use is recreation,  
12. or grazing of livestock, or the preservation of scenic beauty, are  
13. dedicated to those uses. Very often one area can serve several of  
14. these uses at the same time. It may for instance, furnish supplies  
15. of timber under careful cutting plans, and at the same time protect  
16. a watershed, provide a home for wildlife and a place for camping and  
17. outdoor recreation. The correlation of all such uses and activities  
18. for a given area is what the foresters call "multiple use", and it  
19. means the development of carefully worked out plans for the  
20. administration of a National Forest, so that it will serve, according  
21. to the motto of the U. S. Forest Service, "the greatest good of the  
22. greatest number of people in the long run."

23. Well, now to the Pine Cone Ranger Station, where we  
24. find Ranger Jim and Jerry just coming into the office....  
25.



1. JIM: (COMING UP) Well---look who's here. You and Mary  
2. holding down the fort for us, Bess?  
3. BESS: I should say we are, Jim. Your phone's been ringing  
4. so much I've just about had to camp right here in your  
5. office.  
6. JIM: Anything important?  
7. BESS: Not specially. I left a couple of notes on your desk.  
8. JIM: Uh huh...I see----Yep. I'll take care of 'em.  
9. BESS: Mary dropped in this afternoon after school.  
10. MARY: I'm almost ashamed to be over here so much, Mr.  
11. Robbins, but---  
12. JIM: Don't worry, young lady. We like to have you here----  
13. and I suspect Jerry here does too.  
14. JERRY: Sure I do.  
15. BESS: Supper isn't even started yet, Jim, but Mary's going to  
16. stay for supper and she'll help me with it.  
17. JIM: No hurry, Bess. (CHUCKLING) Jerry here isn't hungry---  
18. he never is.  
19. JERRY: Hey, what'd yuh mean I'm not hungry.  
20. MARY: He always is, you should have said.  
21. JIM: Yeah, I s'pect so.  
22. MARY: You're late getting home tonight, Jerry.  
23. JERRY: Yeah. We were up at the timber sale. Say, they cut  
24. some pretty good sized sticks today.  
25. JIM: Yep.





1. JERRY: Those fallers sure know their stuff -- especially that  
2. fellow Hank. Gee, Jim, remember the time he put down  
3. that big pine between the cook shanty and the bunk  
4. house?  
5. JIM: Yep. That sure was a neat job.  
6. JERRY: Gee, I wish you could've seen it, Mary.  
7. MARY: Oh, so do I. I've never seen a really big tree  
8. go down.  
9. JERRY: It's quite a sight. This was about the most ticklish  
10. job of falling I ever saw.  
11. MARY: Was it? Tell me about it.  
12. JERRY: You tell 'em, Jim.  
13. JIM: Well, that was about the time Jerry was just getting  
14. over that bad shoulder he had when he got thrown off  
15. his horse.  
16. MARY: Oh, I remember that. It was when I first knew him.  
17. JIM: Yep, I remember that day when Al called about it I was  
18. feeling pretty good, kinda pleased with myself.....  
19. (FADING) I told Bess that morning-----  
20. (FADEOUT FOR FLASH BACK)  
21. JIM: Well, Bess, I feel like a boy scout this morning.  
22. BESS: Like a boy scout? How so?  
23. JIM: I've already done my good turn for today.  
24. BESS: That's why you were gone so long, I guess. --- Well, what  
25. was the good turn?



1. JIM: I stopped in to see how old Harry Devonshire's getting  
2. along.  
3. BESS: Oh, is he sick again?  
4. JIM: No, but his wife is. I guess they're having rather  
5. a hard time. He can't find any work.  
6. BESS: The poor old soul. I must go over and see her. I'll go  
7. today.  
8. JIM: She'd appreciate it, Bess.---Well, anyhow, I noticed  
9. that Harry's woodpile was getting pretty low, so I gave  
10. him a free permit to cut dead wood up on the forest.  
11. BESS: Oh, but what use is a permit to him, Jim? He has no way  
12. of getting the wood home.  
13. JIM: (CHUCKLES) I fixed that, too, Bess. I got Sim Alford to  
14. promise he'd go up with the old man and haul back the  
15. wood with that light truck of his.  
16. BESS: Yes, but even so, old Mr. Devonshire can't cut so much  
17. wood. He's not able to work very hard.  
18. JIM: (CHUCKLES) I thought of that too, Bee. I ran onto a  
19. couple of husky young school kids on the way back, so I  
20. got them interesting in going up with the old man next  
21. Saturday and helping him cut the wood.  
22. BESS: Well, I guess we can call it a good turn.  
23. JIM: More than that, Bess. I'll be glad to get some of those  
24. old dead snags out up there. They're a bad fire hazard.  
25. (PHONE RINGS)



1. JIM: Pine Cone Ranger Station --- Oh, hello, Al. What's  
2. your problem today? -- Yes, you have plenty of scaled  
3. timber, Al. I scaled a thousand logs on the upper  
4. landing yesterday. -- What -- They did? -- Well there's  
5. no two ways about it, Al, you'll have to get those  
6. skidders some spectacles so they can see my marks.  
7. Mixing scales and unscaled logs is a capital offense,  
8. you know -- That's fine, and while you're jacking them  
9. up for mixing the logs -- just add a word about better  
10. decking. Those rollways are so ragged I couldn't reach  
11. some of the logs with my scale stick -- All right Al --  
12. sure -- the big one? -- Well, we'll see -- all right, --  
13. I'll be up shortly -- Good bye Al.  
14. (HANGS UP RECEIVER)  
15. BESS: Going out, Jim?  
16. JIM: Yes, I'll have to go up the timber sale this morning,  
17. Bess.  
18. BESS: Will you be home for dinner?  
19. JIM: No. I'll go over to camp and try some of Coffee John's  
20. good cooking.  
21. BESS: Oh, You will! Perhaps you'd like to be one of Coffee  
22. John's regular boarders.  
23. JIM: (MOCK EARNEST) No, No, No, Bess, for steady diet, I  
24. guess I'm content to take chances with your offerings.  
25. JERRY: (ENTERING) I'll vote yes on that proposition, too.





1. BESS: Oh! Jerry, you startled me. I didn't hear you come in.  
2. (ALL LAUGH)  
3. JERRY: I'm sorry, Mrs. Robbins -- Say, Mr. Robbins, I've been  
4. out making friends with Zipper. He's not such a bad  
5. horse after all.  
6. JIM: No, Zipper's a pretty good old cayuse. He sort of  
7. surprised me last week, piling you off the way he did.  
8. JERRY: Gosh. He certainly surprised me. -- But this morning  
9. when I was petting him, he sort of nosed me real  
10. friendly like -- just as if he was trying to apologize  
11. for throwing me the other day. -- I've been slipping  
12. him a lump of sugar every now and then --  
13. BESS: So that's why my sugar is disappearing so fast. I  
14. thought there must be a pack rat in the pantry.  
15. JERRY: (LAUGHS) Guess I'm the pack rat, Mrs. Robbins. Well,  
16. never mind, I'll get you a nice big box of sugar next  
17. time I'm down at the store.  
18. BESS: (BANTERING) You'd better, young man, if you're going  
19. to feed all my sugar to the horses that way.  
20. JIM: Hold him to it, Bess -- Say, Jerry, how's the  
21. shoulder today?  
22. JERRY: Getting along fine, Mr. Robbins. Doesn't bother me at  
23. all, if I don't raise my arm.  
24. JIM: That's good. (CHUCKLES) It sure ought to heal up in a  
25. hurry with all the sympathy you've been getting.





1. JERRY: You have been mighty nice.

2. JIM: (CHUCKLES) I was thinking specially about the school

3. ma'm.

4. JERRY: Miss Halloway?

5. JIM: Of course. There you go, trying to look innocent --

6. Mary's taken her job of nurse so seriously I was

7. beginning to doubt whether that shoulder would ever

8. get well.

9. JERRY: Oh, now! It's not as bad as that.

10. JIM: Anyhow, what I started to ask you was: Can you handle

11. a scale stick today? The skidders have covered up the

12. scaled logs on the upper landing and Al Perkins can't

13. load them. It's an uphill job for one scaler on a mess

14. of mixed logs. -- So if that shoulder isn't too bad for

15. you to work one side of the rollways --

16. JERRY: Sure, I can do that all right.

17. JIM: Maybe we'll have a chance to see something interesting

18. while we're up there.

19. JERRY: What is it?

20. JIM: Al's talking about falling the big pine by the cook

21. house today. It'll be a ticklish job of falling, - and

22. one of the biggest trees you ever saw go down.

23. JERRY: The big one? Say, that would be a sight!

24. JIM: Yep. It's quite a crash when one of those big ones

25. drop. -- Well, let's be on our way.



1. (MUSICAL INTERLUDE)

2. JIM: Well, that finishes up this rollway. How many does your  
3. check count show?

4. JERRY: 436 logs.

5. JIM: Something's wrong, scale book shows 438. Did you count  
6. the 2 skidway logs on the ground?

7. JERRY: Oh, no, I forgot those.

8. JIM: Well, that makes it --- These boys are taking out timber  
9. pretty fast.

10. JERRY: They certainly are.

11. JIM: The best part about it, though, is that they're doing as  
12. clean and neat a job of cutting as you could ask for.  
13. Low stumps, careful falling, all the slash piled up neat.  
14. Al Perkins is a mighty efficient logging boss.

15. JERRY: They are doing a good job, aren't they?

16. JIM: Yeah. If we can just keep fire out of this area now,  
17. we'll get maximum growth here. These young trees'll  
18. just shoot right up.

19. JERRY: They sure will -- Here comes Al Perkins now.

20. JIM: Sure enough -- Well, Al. Speak of the devil and he turns  
21. right up.

22. PERKINS: (COMING UP) The devil, huh. Who's a devil?

23. JIM: Well, of course I ain't mentioning any names, but we were  
24. just talking about you.

25. PERKINS: Oh, me? Well, you better show proper respect for his  
majesty, the devil, then.



1. JIM: (CHUCKLES) We were. We were just remarking what a rotten  
2. logger you are.

3. PERKINS: Thanks. How are you as a marker?

4. JIM: The world's best.

5. PERKINS: All right then. Why didn't you mark that big tree by  
6. the corner of the cook house?

7. JIM: I did mark it. You were just too blind to see the  
8. marks, that's all.

9. PERKINS: Well, to tell the truth, Jim, I saw 'em all right.  
10. She should've come down before we put up the shanties  
11. but I kinda hated to see 'er go. Makes a pretty camp,  
12. with that big old pine standing there and I thought  
13. we'd have a little shade.

14. JIM: Well, you've got a tough job of falling on your hands  
15. now, Al, with all the shanties in the way.

16. PERKINS: I've got the boys that can do it, though. I'll put my  
17. boys up against any logging crew in the country.

18. JIM: Let's go look the situation over -- Come on, Jerry.

19. JERRY: Coming, Mr. Robbins -- Say, are they really going to cut  
20. that big pine tree down?

21. JIM: It ought to come out, Jerry. Ever notice the spike top  
22. and those dead stubs of branches down through the crown?  
23. Indicates rot. Now that the trees around it have been  
24. cut it isn't very wind-firm.  
25.





1. PERKINS: It's got to come out all right. The next good wind'll  
2. topple 'er sure. Old Coffee John's getting skittish  
3. about it, every time there's a little breeze he gets a  
4. case of nerves. And when the cook's on a rampage the  
5. whole camp goes haywire.

6. JIM: (CHUCKLES) John sure puts the Indian sign on the crew  
7. when he gets cranky.

8. PERKINS: Well, there's your tree. What do you think, Jim?

9. JIM: Hmmm. -- Not much room to fall 'er. -- Let's see -- I'd  
10. say about your only chance would be to lay 'er between  
11. the cook house and that bunkhouse over there -- It'll  
12. be ticklish business, Al.

13. PERKINS: Hank and his pardners can do it, all right -- (CALLS)  
14. Hey, there! -- tell Hank to come over here, will you?

15. JERRY: If that tree ever hits the cook house, it'll be good  
16. night.

17. PERKINS: It sure would - Well, here's Hank.

18. HANK: (COMING UP) Want me, Al?

19. PERKINS: Yeah, Say, Hank, can you fall that big pine tree between  
20. the cook house and the bunk shanty there?

21. HANK: I sure can, boss.

22. PERKINS: All right. Get your outfit -- You'll have to figure  
23. pretty doggone close if you miss that cook house, Hank.

24. HANK: Yeah. (DUBIOUSLY) She leans a little that way, don't  
25. she?





1. JIM: Well, Al. If he don't fall 'er right this time you'll  
2. have to put up a new cook house.  
3. JERRY: And get a new cook too.  
4. PERKINS: Well, what do you think, Hank? Can you swing the job?  
5. HANK: I kin do a good job a-tryin'.

6. PERKINS: Awright. Let's see you do it.  
7. HANK: Awright. (CALLS) Ole, fetch that long saw and them big  
8. wedges.  
9. PERKINS: How big is she, Jim?  
10. JIM: Pretty close to 6 feet breast high, I'd say.  
11. PERKINS: Well, I s'pect that's about right, Jim. Hey you, go in  
12. and tell Coffee John to clear out of that shanty.  
13. Hank's going to throw this tree right down on top of him.  
14. HANK: Oh yeah?  
15. (SOUND OF CHOPPING)

16. JERRY: There they go on the undercut. - It's -- it's kind of a  
17. shame to see a big tree like that go, isn't it?  
18. JIM: It does raise a little lump in your throat, when you  
19. think how she's been standing there for centuries --  
20. Of course, Al here, the old skinflint, is rubbing his  
21. hands together in glee thinking how many board feet of  
22. logs he's going to get every time a big tree goes down.  
23. But us foresters get sort of sentimental now and then,  
24. in spite of ourselves.  
25. PERKINS: I kinda hate to see 'em go down myself, Jim.



1. JIM: We've got to be practical, though. Timber is for  
2. use, and the best use of this area right in here is  
3. to grow more timber, and keep on growing it.  
4. JERRY: I guess that's right. We've got to give the young trees  
5. a chance.  
6. JIM: That's it, Jerry. Just as old timers like me have to  
7. be turned out to grass some day to make room for  
8. youngsters like you.  
9. JERRY: Oh, no, Mr. Robbins. Not for a long time yet --  
10. PERKINS: Hank's sure doing some close squinting, ain't he?  
11. JIM: (CHUCKLES) He'll need to.  
12. PERKINS: Ain't you getting that cut a little too fur over Hank?  
13. HANK: Well, do yuh want me to cut it, Al?  
14. PERKINS: Awright. She's all yours, but if you put 'er across  
15. that shanty I'll take it out of your pay.  
16. HANK: I betcha a new hat I don't hit the shanty.  
17. PERKINS: You're on. Go to it. (ASIDE CLOSE UP TO JIM) I'd  
18. sooner set him up to a new hat than have him put that  
19. tree in the wrong spot.  
20. JIM: (LAUGHS) Yes....Well Jerry, let's go into the office  
21. and add up the scale books.  
22. JERRY: But I want to see the tree fall. They've almost  
23. finished the undercut.  
24. JIM: Lots of time, lad. We might as well be getting something  
25. done. They'll be sawing on the tree for quite a spell.



1. (FADEOUT WITH THE SOUND OF CHOPPING)  
2. (PAUSE)  
3. (FADE IN SOUND OF SAW - CONTINUES THROUGH FOLLOWING)  
4. JIM: Well, Al. How they coming?  
5. PERKINS: Just about through the tree, Jim.  
6. JIM: If Hank don't fall 'er just right, it'll sure do a lot  
7. of damage. That tree could take a corner off the cook  
8. house awfully easy.  
9. PERKINS: You're durned right -- The cook -- Coffee John -- he's  
10. all for taking a day off. He figures the cook shanty  
11. is as good as gone already.  
12. JIM: (LAUGHS) Don't trust you fellows, huh?  
13. PERKINS: Don't look like it!  
14. JERRY: Well, it is a matter of pretty close figuring, all  
15. right.  
16. JIM: So it is, Jerry.  
17. PERKINS: (SHOUTS) Watch 'er, Hank! She's beginning to sway!  
18. (SAWING STOPS)  
19. HANK: Hey! Get the saw out, Ole! I'm goin' to drive the  
20. wedges.  
21. (SOUND OF DRIVING STEEL WEDGES, CONTINUES TO TIME OF FIRST CRACK)  
22. JERRY: It won't be long now! -- Look at 'er sway!  
23. PERKINS: We'd better get back, Jim. They're driving in the  
24. wedges to topple 'er.  
25.





1. JIM: (SHOUTS) Jerry! Come back here, young fellow! If  
 2. that tree ever hit you it'd drive you straight through  
 3. to China.

4. JERRY: (COMING BACK) All right, Mr. Robbins -- I didn't want to  
 5. miss anything.

6. PERKINS: (LOUDLY) Watch 'er boys!

7. (SHARP CRACK: SOUND OF MEN'S VOICES IN DISTANCE)

8. JERRY: There she goes!

9. PERKINS: Timber! -- Timber-r-r!

10. OTHER VOICE: (IN DISTANCE) Timber-r-r----Timber-r-r-!

11. JERRY: Gosh! Look at the men scatter.

12. JIM: Good bye, old timer! Look at 'er going over --  
 13. slow and majestic --

14. JERRY: It's faster, now! -- Faster --- Gee!

15. (SOUND OF SEVERAL SHARP CRACKS, THEN SWISH OF TOP THROUGH AIR, AND GREAT  
 16. CRASH. REVERBERATIONS CONTINUE SEVERAL SECONDS)

17. JERRY: Gee, what a crash! It shook the ground like an  
 18. earthquake!

19. JIM: Never touched the cook house! -- (CALLS) Good work, boys!  
 20. Yes, sir. That's good work!

21. JERRY: Gee! Did you see the dirt and rocks fly up, though!

22. PERKINS: Well -- that's over.

23. JIM: You've still got your cook house, Al -- Well, another  
 24. old giant bit the dust -- Quite a sight, huh, Jerry?

25. JERRY: That was a sight! She sure was a whopper of a tree. And  
 look at that top. It broke all to pieces.





1. JIM: Well, Al, she's sound as a dollar. You'll get seven  
2. good logs Al. Maybe eight.  
3. PERKINS: Yeah. She's sounder than I thought. Next time you  
4. come up we'll have the logs ready for you to scale.  
5. JIM: Okay. Well, Jerry that's the biggest tree you'll see  
6. go down in this forest for a long time.  
7. JERRY: I wouldn't have missed it for a hundred dollars.  
8. A fellow has to know his business to fell a tree  
9. like that.  
10. JIM: Yes. Every job has its specialists. No matter what  
11. your job is you've got to know your business, Jerry.  
12. (FADEOUT)  
13. (MUSIC)  
14. ANNOUNCER: "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers" is a presentation of  
15. the National Broadcasting Company, in cooperation  
16. with the Forest Service, United States Department of  
17. Agriculture.  
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23. ah:12:50  
24. 2/6/40  
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